

THE MORNING NEWS

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Groundbreaking for Bio-gas plant at WEB Another landmark step is taken on Aruba's march to full sustainability



Hoevertsz and Kelkboom have the honors of placing the pipe

ORANJESTAD -- Water-En-Energiebedrijf Aruba N.V. or WEB, the island's water and energy plant, was proud to host the official groundbreak-

ceremony on December 18. Directing Manager of WEB, Oslin J. Boekhoudt, welcomed island engineers and staffers of the companies

completely independent of oil, regarding water and energy production, by the year 2020.

The project is a cooperative effort by WEB Aruba N.V, Ecological Technologies and Trading Free Zone, to be built by Custom Contractors, a local company. It is through the cooperation of

Free Zone Aruba, where the actual processing plant will be located, it could finally be realized.

Mr. Boekhoudt explained the importance of the project, as it addresses a number of issues involving energy sources, carbon emissions and preservation of the environment. This first phase of their long-term plan regarding bio-gas is expected to provide 2MW of energy daily. This is 2% of Aruba's average requirements of 100MW, but added to the wind farm and solar park, which are, or will be soon in operation, overall reduction of oil requirements to produce energy will be almost 45%.

One of the most important aspects of this new plant will be its use of Aruba's output of refuse to produce the bio-gas, thus helping to solve the waste issue of the landfill at Parkietenbos.

Continued on pg 2



Franklin Hoevertsz, O.J. Boekhoudt, Greg Peterson, Ferdinand Kelkboom

ing of what will be another important component in Aruba's independence from oil, a bio-gas plant, on Wednesday afternoon, De-

involved in the project to the plant's premises, to explain the importance of the project and how it aligns with WEB's ultimate purpose, to be com-



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Obama would veto Iran bill

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The White House warned Thursday that President Barack Obama would veto a bill threatening new sanctions on Iran, because it could sink a final deal to stop Tehran getting a nuclear bomb.

The legislation, backed by both Democratic and Republican senators, would impose new sanctions on Tehran if it violated a six-month interim nuclear agreement reached last month or if no final deal is reached.

The White House appears alarmed that the move could undermine the Iranian negotiating team or offer the Islamic republic an excuse to walk away from the negotiations.

"This action is unneces-

sary," White House spokesman Jay Carney said.

"We don't think it will be enacted. If it were enacted, the president would veto it."

Twenty-six US senators introduced new Iran sanctions legislation earlier Thursday, despite an intense White House lobbying campaign, which has included the president himself and warnings that the alternative to diplomacy is a new war in the Middle East.

The Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act was introduced by Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Robert Menendez, fellow Democratic Senator Chuck Schumer and Republican Senator Mark Kirk.

Continued on pg 6

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A warm holiday thanks to the volunteers of Aruba Special Olympics



Netty Williams and Arturo Werleman



and Aruba's Special Olympic Committee is already working on training and fundraising for a delegation to the event.

However, with the holiday season upon us, the committee board treated the selfless, hardworking volunteers to a congenial Christmas dinner at the Grill House restaurant in Oranjestad, in gratitude for their patience and diligence throughout the year. The mellow music of local cabaret entertainer Dennis Zeppenfeldt set just the right tone for the enjoying the season with others dedicated to the cause. They finished the evening with a sumptuous buffet, before taking a short breather until next year.

By Rosalie Klein



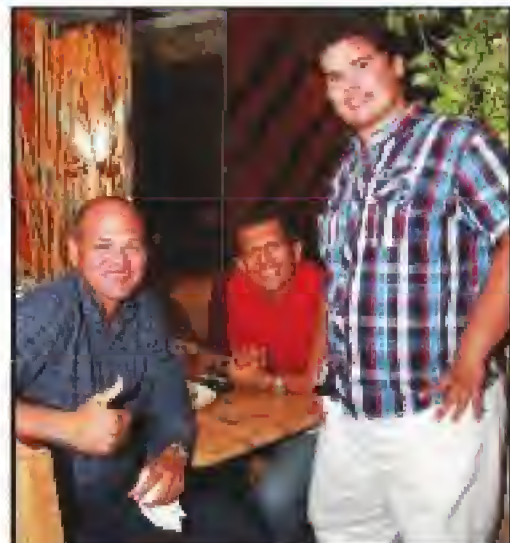
volunteer Aruba Special Olympics Committee, which is dedicated to program of providing healthy pastimes, while building confidence in the mentally challenged continually strive to be all they can be.

Arturo Werleman, Director of the SVGA is President of the Special Olympics board, with members Netty Williams and Dennis Conrado. Karel

Williams is the National Director of the committee.

Throughout the year, they are training the island's athletes, with the enthusiastic volunteer efforts and coaching of several members of the community. National Games are conducted every October, so athletes can be tested and become accustomed to com-

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba has an official organization administering to the education and care of the island's mentally challenged, the Stichting Voor Verstandelijk Gehandicapten Aruba or SVGA. They maintain a number of facilities tailored to the needs and capabilities of their "clients." An offshoot of the SVGA is the purely



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Groundbreaking for Bio-gas plant at WEB...

Continued from pg 1



All recipient foundations

This first phase is expected to deploy 30% of Aruba's waste production from island homes. Biogas also produces far less CO₂ emissions than oil when used as fuel, which is also a deciding factor in taking this action. The plan is to eventually increase the production capacity of the bio-gas plant to produce enough product to provide 7MW worth of energy daily, which will also burn up 70% of Aruba's garbage.

When addressing the gathering, Managing Director of Eco-Tech, Ferdinand Kelk-

boom stated that though this will be a great help in reducing waste, it should be coupled with an effective and enforced program of recycling, to truly resolve this issue successfully.

For decades, WEB engineers have been conducting sustainability studies of every alternative energy source under development, with a sharp eye to the benefits balanced by cost efficiency. They have deemed this bio-gas project quite worthwhile. The plant will actually be built and run by Ecological

Technologies, (Eco-Tech) who will then sell the product to WEB at a long-term set price. This is a similar arrangement WEB has with all the advanced renewable energy projects on Aruba.

For this project, the company has taken on the name Ecological Technologies and Trading Freezone, because it will be located within the confines of Freezone Aruba. This allows the

plant certain tax benefits, which were necessary for the project to be in anyway feasible.

Ferdinand Kelkboom partnered with the Director of Utilities Aruba, Franklin Hoevertz, for the honor of the "groundbreaking" ceremony, where they placed the first piece of pipeline that will transport the bio-gas from the plant to WEB. Utilities Aruba N.V. is an important partner in the initiation and development of Aruba's various energy projects.

Prior to the actual placing of the pipe, the principals involved in the project, includ-

ing Managing Director of Custom Contractors, Glenn Maduro, were called forward to make donations to local foundations, as is the custom when commencing such large, multi-million florin projects.

25,000 Aruban florins (\$14,285) was distributed among four local foundations. Those receiving financial assistance included Stichting Sociaal Fonds Colegio Arubano, an organi-

zation assisting high school students in need, Huize Maristella/SABA, a full care facility for the elderly, Sonrisa Vereniging, which provides after school activities and job training for the mentally challenged, as well as counseling for parents, and Ban Uni Man Pa Cria Nos Muchanan, which daily provides a breakfast for over 700 elementary school students.

By Rosalie Klein



Early Bird Menu

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm



Appetizers: Stuffed Avocado, Escargots Bourguignon, (choose one) Fruits of the Seven Seas, Choices of Soups

Entrees: Breaded Grouper topped with coconut shrimps served with rice and vegetables

Land & Sea
 Chicken Breast, Steak & Shrimps with rice and vegetables

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Tierra del Sol Recognizes its Employees



Last Friday around the pool at Tierra del Sol Golf, Spa, and Resort, employees came together for a casual celebration of success. Employees were recognized for the excellent work that they are doing to create and support a great guest experience. During the evening, management recognized employees from all departments who excelled during the year and best reflected Tierra del Sol's promise of being the "Jewel of the Caribbean".


A total of 8 employees received special recognition from their manager, who shared their accomplishments and presented them with a gift certificate, just in time for the holidays.

The employees that were recognized were Mrs. Yvonne Boekhoudt of the Golf Pro Shop, Mr. Juan Carlos Jimenez of Golf Maintenance, Mrs. Anna Amato of the Restaurant Guest Services, Mrs. Benita Petrochi of the Restaurant Kitchen, Mrs. Janelyn Jiao of the Spa & Gym Facilities, Mrs. Eridania Rosario of Villas Rental Services, Mr. Edwin Ortega



of Engineering, and Mrs. Petra Snieders of Accounting. The recognized employees, together with their col-

leagues, enjoyed the evening with food and music, as they look forward to a successful year ahead.

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Paseo Herencia hosting a full schedule of seasonal entertainment



PALM BEACH— Paseo Herencia continues with its Christmas Season celebration. Every weekend this month, patrons have enjoyed various activities while visiting the mall to shop, dine and enjoy the Christmas ambiance.

Every Friday, island Steelpan groups entertain the audience with Caribbean music, while on Saturdays one of Aruba's many Gaita groups perform, this delightful seasonal music. On Sunday, popular island vocalist Edjean Semeleer sets the mood with his repertoire of local and international holiday themed songs.

The Kids Village is open to entertain the youngsters of all ages through the evening hours.

Paseo Herencia has several Gift Certificate options available at the Parking Cash Reg-

ister, which stays open until midnight. In case you forget to buy a gift for that special person, this option is an ideal solution. The gift certificate is also a smart alternative gift for companies to give to employees.

Santa Claus will be present every Saturday from 7 to 8 p.m., for everyone who wants to take pictures with him. The service is free. All pictures will be posted on Paseo Herencia's Face Book page. Look for you or your child's photo, and tell your friends to "like" the picture. The photo earning the most votes will receive a Paseo Herencia gift certificate.

"Paseo Herencia invites you to come enjoy our festive ambiance with family during this Holiday Season," stated a mall spokesperson.

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Stores are open during the weekends of December until 11 pm

****Selected Stores are OPEN till 11PM during weekdays.**

FRIDAY - Local Steel Pan Music live on stage

SATURDAY - local Gaitas live on stage

SUNDAY - local artist Edjean Semeleer Live on stage

Picture taking opportunity with Santa on Saturday from 7 pm-8 pm.

Holiday Opening Hours

DEC

24

10am-7pm

DEC

25

Stores are CLOSED

DEC

26

5pm-10pm

DEC

31

10am-5pm

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Unique Cultural event to take place at Brazil Community Center on December 27



SAN NICOLAS – The Board of the Brazil Community Center announced that it is organizing a tremendous cultural event for December 27. During this event culture will meet sport and sport will meet culture.

It promises to be a unique show with the following activities:

A Dande show, with 10 Dande groups will be presenting a dedication to Mr. Concho Ras, well-known Dande musician for many years. During the show the Board will present handsome tokens to 20 bastions of the community who excelled in a variety of areas, including volleyball, football, taek-

wondo, softball, baseball, volunteers, religion, music, culture, ping pong, racing and teaching.

Also being honored are 4 world famous athletes who are known internationally for baseball, drag-racing and taekwondo.

To close off this unique event, Bonairean group 'Es-

trella di Boneiro' will provide entertainment.

At 7:30 the Board will

light the traditional Pagara, to close out the year.

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(Includes: 2-pc funchi, fried plantains french fries, tartar sauce & pickled onions)
Calco "Conch" in Creole or garlic sauce US\$ 21.70 AFIs. 38.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw, french fries & fried plantain)
Panfried Lobster 6 oz. US\$ 20.00 AFIs. 35.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw, french fries & fried plantain)

Special Plates

Chicken Sate US\$ 10.85 AFIs. 19.00
(Includes: french fries & peanut sauce)
Fillet Mignon 6 oz (Angus) US\$ 18.30 AFIs. 32.00
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(Rice, coleslaw, french fries, fried plantain)



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London theatre ceiling collapses during show, 88 wounded

LONDON (AFP) - The ceiling of a packed London theatre collapsed on the audience during a performance Thursday, wounding more than 88 people including children and leaving terrified theatregoers covered in blood and dust.

The incident happened at the Apollo Theatre during the West End show "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time" and comes the week before Christmas when London's theatres are traditionally busy.

Witnesses heard creaking noises in the 112-year-old theatre before the collapse but thought it was part of the show, before a section of the ceiling collapsed and brought down parts of the balconies.

Rescuers commandeered a red London double decker bus to transport some of the wounded to hospital, according to AFP journalists at the

scene.

Emergency services said that they did not believe there were any fatalities and that all those trapped after the incident had now been freed.

"We have treated 81 walking wounded and seven more seriously injured patients at the Apollo Theatre incident," London Ambulance Service said in a statement.

There were around 720 people in the audience at the time, the London Fire Brigade said.

"A section of the theatre's ceiling collapsed onto the audience who were watching the show. The ceiling took parts of the balconies down with it," senior firefighter Nick Harding said.

"In my time as a fire officer I've never seen an incident like this. I imagine lots of people were out enjoying the show in the run-up to Christmas."

Obama would veto Iran bill

Continued from pg 1

"Current sanctions brought Iran to the negotiating table and a credible threat of future sanctions will require Iran to cooperate and act in good faith," said Menendez in a statement introducing the legislation.

It was not immediately clear if or when the bill could see a vote. Action this year is highly unlikely, with the Senate set to recess this week until early 2014.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has indicated he is opposed to bringing such a bill to the floor in January, saying he agreed with the Obama administration's call to give the delicate negotiations a chance to work.

Should the landmark interim deal collapse, the proposed sanctions would require Iran to reduce its oil production and would apply new penalties to the Islamic republic's engineering, mining and construction industries.

The new legislation was introduced as negotiations were set to resume Thursday in Geneva between Iran and world powers in the so-called P5+1: the United States, China, Britain, France, Russia and Germany.

Kirk warned that "appeasing" Iran would lead to war and said that any sanctions

relief obtained by Iran would be converted immediately to more nuclear components and financing for terrorism.

Republican Senator Lindsey Graham pledged that Congress would amass the two-thirds majority needed to override the veto if Obama wielded it.

He also argued that the threat of new sanctions would strengthen Obama's hand in diplomatic talks with Iran rather than scupper the process.

"New sanctions tells the international community that we're serious," he said.

There were also signs Thursday that Democratic opinion in the Senate is split.

Ten Democratic committee chairs, including Banking panel leader Tim Johnson and Armed Services leader Carl Levin, expressed opposition to more sanctions.

"At this time, as negotiations are ongoing, we believe that new sanctions would play into the hands of those in Iran who are most eager to see the negotiations fail," the senators wrote in a letter to Reid.

Iran reacted angrily when Washington last week black-listed a dozen overseas companies and individuals for evading previous sanctions, which have exerted a painful price on its economy.



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New Mexico becomes 17th state to back gay marriage

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - New Mexico's Supreme Court backed same-sex marriage rights Thursday, making the southwestern US state the 17th to back gay weddings.

Rights activists hailed the opinion, saying it was a "historic and joyful" day for New Mexico and the United States, more than a third of whose states have now legalized same-sex unions.

"As a state, we have always strived to treat all families with dignity and respect, and today's decision allowing loving, committed same sex couples to marry continues that tradition," said Laura Schauer Ives, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico.

"This truly is a historic and joyful day for New Mexico," she added.

In its 31-page opinion, published on the Albuquerque Journal's website, the state's top court said: "All rights, protections, and re-

sponsibilities that result from the marital relationship shall apply equally to both same-gender and opposite-gender married couples."

New Mexico joins 16 other US states and the US capital city Washington, DC in legalizing same sex mar-

riage. The other states are: California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington.

US can pay bills until early March: Treasury

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States will run out of money to pay its bills by early March if Congress does not raise the nation's borrowing limit, Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said Thursday.

In a letter to Congress, Lew urged lawmakers to take "prompt action" to once again extend the debt limit, after the legislature extended it in October through February 7, amid fears the world's largest economy could default on its debt.

When the extension ex-

pires on February 7, the United States will hit the debt limit again, he said.

"At that time, in the absence of Congressional action, Treasury would be forced to take extraordinary measures to continue to finance the government on a temporary basis," Lew wrote.

The Treasury currently estimates that by using those measures, "we would be able to extend the nation's borrowing authority only until late February or early March 2014."



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Cuba lifts 50-year-old restrictions on car imports

HAVANA (AFP) - Cuba announced Thursday it will allow unrestricted car imports for the first time in half a century, marking the end of an era that made icons of the island's vintage automobiles.

The official newspaper Granma said the decision to allow cars to be imported for sale at market prices on the island was taken Wednesday by Cuba's council of ministers.

It said the decision will gradually free up retail sales of all manner of vehicles -- automobiles, vans, trucks and motorcycles -- and ends the practice of granting some Cubans special permission to bring in vehicles as a privilege.

Granma acknowledged the so-called "letters of authorization" issued by the transport ministry had generated "resentment, dissatisfaction and,



in not a few cases ... (were) a source of speculation and enrichment."

Holders of the letters, however, will still be first in line to buy cars while the new system is phased in, Granma said.

Opening Cuba's domestic car market to imports is likely

to have fateful consequences for the lovingly maintained 1950s Chevys, Fords and Pontiacs that have survived a 50-year-old US embargo.

But the changes are a long-awaited element of President Raul Castro's attempts to gradually liberalize Cuba's Soviet-style economy.

Dutch Minister says 'no' to all regulated marijuana production ideas

THE HAGUE - Justice minister Ivo Opstelten said on Thursday he remains opposed to any attempts to regulate marijuana production, despite mounting local authority pressure for change.

Opstelten said he has received various proposals for council-run production but that he has not changed his view that controlled growing is in conflict with international treaties.

In total, 25 plans have been submitted to the minister. These include the setting up of growers clubs as well as more formal production proposals.

Export

Opstelten said regulating marijuana production will do nothing to ease the problems facing local councils. Some 80% of marijuana currently grown in the Netherlands is for export and regulation would not help combat the involvement of organised crime, he said.

At the moment it is illegal to grow marijuana. This means



there is a grey area between the official policy of turning a blind eye towards possessing small amounts of marijuana and the supply to cannabis cafes, known as coffee shops.

The cabinet's priority remains cracking down on organised growing and keeping tourists out of cafes where small amounts of cannabis can be sold, he said.

Grey area

Many councils are highly critical of official government policy on marijuana and say le-

galised production would remove organised crime from the equation.

'Marijuana does not fall from the sky,' Heerlen mayor Paul Depla told Trouw earlier this year. 'If the minister wants to tackle illegal plantations, then the government has to take over growing marijuana itself.'

In November, RTL said the D66 Liberal party is drawing up draft legislation for the regulated production of marijuana.

Muslim fanatics guilty of brutal British soldier murder

LONDON (AFP) - Two Muslim extremists were found guilty Thursday of hacking to death a British soldier in broad daylight on a London street.

Michael Adebolajo, 29, and Michael Adebowale, 22, ran over Lee Rigby with a car before attacking him with knives outside his barracks in May.

Adebolajo tried to behead Rigby with a meat cleaver in front of horrified passers-by.

The pair had argued they attacked the 25-year-old soldier to avenge the deaths of Muslims at the hands of British troops.

Prime Minister David Cameron said Britain was united in condemnation of the killing, which state prosecutors described as "one of the most savage offences ever prosecuted by our counter-terrorism lawyers".

Rigby's relatives, who had walked out of the trial several times during harrowing evidence about his death, broke down in tears as the guilty verdicts were given.

Adebolajo kissed his copy of the Koran as he was taken down to the cells at the Old Bailey court in London.

Jurors cleared Adebolajo and Adebowale of the attempted murder of a police officer.

The pair were shot by armed police at the murder scene in



Woolwich, southeast London, after Adebolajo charged at them waving the meat cleaver, while Adebowale raised a rusty, unloaded gun.

The killers, both Britons who were raised by Nigerian Christian families before converting to Islam, may not be sentenced until January.

The court heard that they believed they were "soldiers of Allah" who were avenging the deaths of Muslims, but the judge ruled on Tuesday that this could not be used as a defence.

Minutes after the murder, Adebolajo, still wielding the cleaver and with his hands covered with blood, told onlookers the attack was "an eye for an eye".

Rigby's family said justice had been done, but "no amount of justice will bring Lee back".

Relatives of Rigby said Islam could not be held responsible for his murder.



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Spain to ban e-cigarettes in hospitals, schools

MADRID (AFP) - Spain will ban electronic cigarettes from public places like hospitals and schools because of their possible health risks, the government said.

"The goal is to protect people's health and avoid possible adverse effects," Health Minister Ana Mato said in a statement.

The ban on the use of the battery-powered devices, which contain liquid nicotine that is turned into a vapour when inhaled, will also apply to health centres, public administration buildings and public transport.

The health ministry reached an agreement to impose restrictions on the use of e-cigarettes with the health departments of Spain's 17 autonomous regional governments, which are responsible for healthcare, at a meeting in Madrid.

Spain already bans minors from using e-cigarettes.

Under Spain's anti-tobacco law, one of the strictest in Europe, smoking is banned in bars, restaurants, discotheques, casinos, airports as well as in outside places such as outside hospitals and children's playgrounds.

Governments around the world have struggled with how to regulate e-cigarettes since their emergence and growing popularity in recent years.

Supporters claim they are a less dangerous alternative to



regular cigarettes and a valuable tool in helping smokers to quit.

However, the World Health Organisation has advised against them, saying their potential health risk "remains undetermined".

In October European lawmakers rejected a bid to classify e-cigarettes as medicinal

products, which would have restricted their sale to pharmacies.

But European Union states and lawmakers agreed on Wednesday to regulate nicotine content in both the devices and refills will be regulated.

About seven million Europeans have turned to e-cigarettes in the last four years.

AstraZeneca takes control of diabetes venture for \$4.1bn

LONDON (AFP) - Anglo-Swedish drugs firm AstraZeneca said Thursday it will buy Bristol-Myers Squibb's stake in their diabetes venture for up to \$4.1 billion (3.0 billion euros).

"AstraZeneca today announced an agreement under which AstraZeneca will acquire the entirety of Bristol-Myers Squibb's interests in the companies' diabetes alliance for an initial consideration of \$2.7 billion on completion and up to \$1.4 billion in regulatory, launch and sales-related payments," it said in a statement.

Following completion of the transaction, AstraZeneca will own intellectual property and global rights for the development, manufacture and commercialization of the diabetes business.

"Today's announcement reinforces AstraZeneca's long-term commitment to diabetes, a core strategic area for us and an important platform for returning AstraZeneca to growth."

London-listed AstraZeneca added that diabetes was a key focus for the company, particularly in emerging markets.

"Diabetes is rapidly becoming a global challenge of epidemic proportions that is expected to affect more than 550 million people by 2030," Sonirot said.

"In recent years we've worked with our alliance partners at Bristol-Myers Squibb to develop an innovative portfolio of non-insulin anti-diabetic medicines that help address the needs of these patients."

Chinese man's leg proves handy solution after arm severed



BEIJING (AFP) - Doctors in China kept a man's severed hand alive for a month by attaching it to his leg, before restoring it to its usual position, a report said.

The 25-year-old, identified by his nickname Xiao Wei, had his right hand sawn off by a drilling machine at work last month in Changde, in the central province of Hunan, the Xiaoxiang Morning Herald said.

The damage was too severe to re-attach the hand immediately, so surgeons in the provincial capital Changsha grafted it onto his lower leg,

just above his Achilles tendon, to keep it alive while the healing process began.

Severed limbs can be saved if their blood supply is restored within several hours of their amputation, depending on the circumstances.

Earlier this month, doctors removed the hand and successfully reattached it to Xiao Wei's arm in a nine-hour operation, said the newspaper.

He will have to go through several further operations and rehabilitation therapy to restore the limb's function, it added.

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Prevent Dengue

The illustrations depict several preventive measures: a person cleaning a surface, a person using a mosquito net, a person removing a tire, a person cleaning a potted plant, a person cleaning a trash can, a person cleaning a car, a person cleaning a trash can, and a person cleaning a trash can.



A&E's Duck Dynasty Controversy



NEW YORK - Phil Robertson's was put on "indefinite hiatus" by A&E from the hit reality show after making anti-gay remarks in GQ magazine.

Following intense criticism from gay rights groups and others, A&E announced that the patriarch of the duck-hunting family had been placed on "indefinite hiatus" following his comments.

A source close to the show tells FOX411 that even if Robertson apologized, at this point, A&E is done with him.

According to the source, given that "Duck Dynasty" boasts such a big cast, losing a cast member won't prevent them from moving ahead with the popular series, even if it ends up being fashioned as more of a "spin-off." But the creative team still faces some major problems as Phil is ultimately the leader of the family and the source of many "words of wisdom" parlayed to the grandkids. He is also the founder of the multi-million dollar Duck Commander business the show features, and thus his absence is likely going to hurt.

"There isn't a network out there that would do things differently, with all their major corporate conglomerate ties, they'd all follow a similar course as A&E has," said the source. "It's likely the beginning of the end for 'Duck Dynasty.'"

This isn't the first time A&E has had to contend with remarks made by one of its stars.

In 2007, the network halted production of "Dog the Bounty Hunter" after audio tapes revealed head honcho Duane Chapman repeatedly using the N-word. The media exposure resulted in Chapman issuing a public apology. Three months later, when the outrage had simmered, the network announced the program would return.

Many fans want to see Robertson similarly reinstated. A&E is facing threats of audience boycotts and outrage from devoted fans of the show since it made the decision to suspend Robertson, with many calling it an act against freedom of speech and those who hold traditional Christian values. There are also 14 million "Duck Dynasty" lovers who tune in every week to hear the Christian family do their thing - a huge audience to possibly upset.

Soul of Rolling Stones, Keith Richards, turns 70

NEW YORK (AFP) - The Rolling Stones' Keith Richards hit 70 Wednesday with another tour on the horizon, and probably a smirk for everyone who would not have bet he would make it this far in a life of excess. The unmatched guitar legend isn't just hitting 70 -- like Mick Jagger did in August. He is also celebrating his 30th wedding anniversary with former model Patti Hanson, with whom he has two daughters. He also has three children with the Italian actress Anita Pallenberg. With his trademark bandana tied around his head, open shirt and face wrinkled by years of hard partying and struggles with addiction, Richards' image incarnates pure, undiluted rock and roll. Richards hits the road with fellow bandmates Mick Jagger, Charlie Watts and Ronnie Wood plus special guest Mick Taylor, who played with the group from 1969 to 1974, on its "14 on Fire" tour that debuts February 21 in Abu Dhabi.



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New Oscars logo puts spotlight on Academy

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The body behind the Oscars has unveiled a new logo that it hopes will focus more attention on the organization's wider work in addition to Hollywood's biggest trophy fest.

The prestigious Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, whose 6,000 or so members choose who gets the prized golden statuettes every year, is aiming to highlight its year-round work supporting filmmakers, showcasing cinema and fostering talent.

The old logo featured the distinctive Oscar silhouette against a gold oval. The new one creates a large capital "A" that surrounds Tinseltown's



most coveted little man.
"This design gives the

Academy a presence in its own logo for the first time, and underscores our efforts to support creative arts and sciences year-round," said the Academy's marketing chief Christina Kounelias.

The Academy, which next month will unveil its nominees for Hollywood's annual awards fest on March 2, used design studio 130LA to create the new look.

The logo "transformed the visual balance from not only representing the Oscars, but now it's very much about the Academy," said 130LA's chief of design Richard Harrington, who is based out of Britain.

As well as organizing the Academy Awards, the Beverly Hills-based body runs events and exhibitions, provides grants and support, holds archives and fosters research into the history of cinema, among other activities.

The organization is due to open an Academy Museum in 2017.



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200 cars stolen in Germany 'now owned by Tajik elite'

BERLIN (AFP) - About 200 cars stolen in Germany have been tracked down in Tajikistan, where most are now driven by family and friends of President Emomali Rakhmon, media and officials in Berlin said Thursday.

The case of the German-registered cars, including 93 BMWs located via their GPS systems, has caused friction between Germany and the Central Asian country, mass-circulation daily Bild reported.

The German foreign ministry did not confirm it had called in the Tajik ambassador over the case, but a spokeswoman said "there have been talks with the Tajik side on co-operation in fighting organised crime".

The Tajik embassy denied as "completely unfounded" the charge that stolen German cars had ended up with the president's family, saying the claim aimed "to damage the reputation of the nation and the head of state".

Berlin city justice department spokeswoman Lisa Jani said the stolen cars were located in Tajikistan by the "Westwind" task force of German and Lithuanian investigators, mostly using the vehicles' GPS tracking systems.

"Most of the vehicles are in the possession of people who have business or family ties with the family of the Tajik president," Heilmann wrote to the foreign minister at the time, said Jani.

Tajikistan said it had "asked the German authorities to provide information from its database of stolen cars to Tajikistan authorities to prevent their illegal import into the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan. However, this has not happened."

Bed-sharing Sweden advises against infants in parental bed

STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Sweden, one of the countries where bed-sharing between parents and infants is most widespread, issued advice Wednesday against the practice for new-born babies warning of an increased risk of cot death.

"It's important that children under three months sleep in their own beds," Kerstin Nordstrand at the National Board of Health and Welfare told AFP.

She said the recommendation was "new", since the insti-



tution had previously only advised against new-borns sleeping in the same room as a smoker or in the same bed with a parent under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The information was first published by Swedish medical newspaper Dagens Medicin, which cited a paediatrics pro-

fessor at Gothenburg University.

"It has been clear in the research in recent years that co-sleeping is a risk factor in Sudden Infant Death Syndrome," professor Goeran Wennergren told the paper.

The practice is reportedly widespread in Sweden.

A 2001 study published in the paediatric journal Early Human Development showed that 65 percent of three-month-old Swedish babies slept with their parents, the highest rate in the Western world.

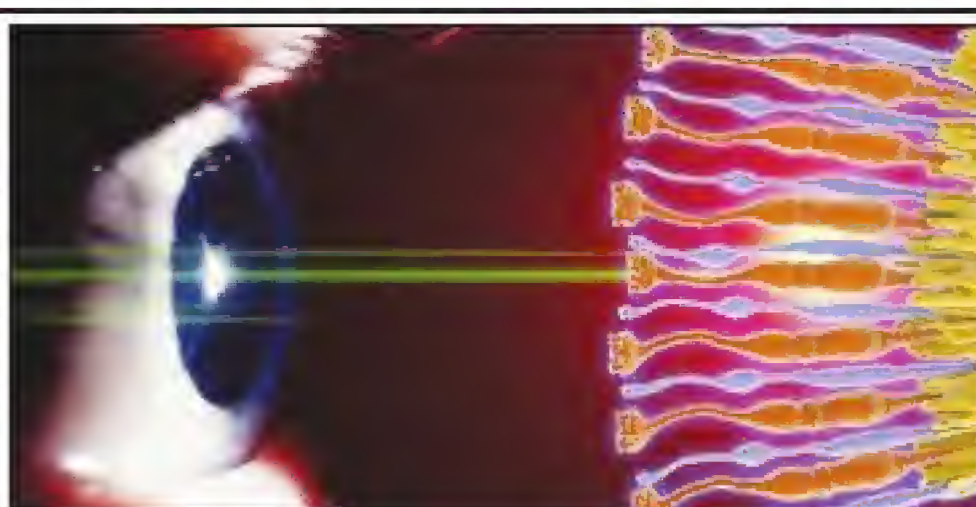
A report published by the British Medical Journal which analysed nearly 1,500 sudden infant deaths revealed that 22 percent took place while the baby slept in the parental bed.

According to professor of medical statistics, Bob Carpenter, who was responsible for the study, the risk of cot death for babies sleeping with their parents was multiplied by five compared to those who slept alone.

Other countries including France and the United States recommend sleeping in the same room as the new-born, but not in the same bed.

Scientists 'print' new eye cells

LONDON - Scientists say they have been able to successfully print new eye cells that could be used to treat sight loss. The proof-of-principle work in the journal Biofabrication was carried out using animal cells. The Cambridge University team says it paves the way for grow-your-own therapies for people with damage to the light-sensitive layer of tissue at back of the eye - the retina. At the moment the results are preliminary and show that an inkjet printer can be used to print two types of cells from the retina of adult rats—ganglion cells and glial cells. These are the cells that transmit information from the eye to certain parts of the brain, and provide support and protection for neurons. The printed cells remained healthy and retained their ability to survive and grow in culture. They now plan to attempt to print other types of retinal cells, including the light-sensitive photoreceptors - rods and cones. Scientists have already been able to reverse blindness in mice using stem cell transplants. And there is promising work into electronic retina implants in patients.



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Spain watchdog fines Google for privacy 'violations'

MADRID (AFP) - Spain's data protection watchdog ordered US Internet giant Google on Thursday to pay a 900,000-euro fine for "serious violations" of users' privacy.

The Spanish Data Protection Agency accused the popular search provider of "illegal processing of personal data" obtained from users of various services such as Google email accounts.

It ordered Google to pay 300,000 euros (\$410,000) for each of three counts of breaching Spain's data protection law and ordered it to bring its privacy policy in line with legal norms.

It said Google's privacy policy did not clearly inform users of how it uses data collected, for example information from emails that is gathered to generate targeted advertising.

It also accused Google of keeping the data for longer than is legally justified and of making it difficult for users to query the use of their data.

Google has repeatedly stated that its privacy policy respects European law, despite investigations in several countries.

Authorities in Germany,

Italy, The Netherlands and Britain have also opened parallel procedures against Google.

Zuckerberg sells as Facebook offers new shares

NEW YORK (AFP) - Facebook chief Mark Zuckerberg will sell a chunk of his stake in the company, cashing in some \$2.3 billion, as part of a new share offering by the huge social network.

A Facebook filing Thursday said the company would sell 70 million shares in a follow-on offering to the huge initial public offering in May 2012.

Of the total amount, Zuckerberg will sell around 41 million shares, mainly to satisfy his tax obligations, the company said in a statement.

The 27 million new shares at Facebook's latest closing price of \$55.57 would raise some

WASHINGTON (AFP) - World Bank chief Jim Yong Kim said Thursday that corruption was the top problem faced by developing countries as he unveiled a new weapon to root out graft.

"In the developing world, corruption is public enemy number one," Kim said at a conference at World Bank headquarters in Washington.

"Every dollar that a corrupt official or a corrupt business person puts in their pocket is a dollar stolen from a pregnant woman who needs health care; or from a girl or a boy who deserves an education."

Kim said the private sector should be "part of the solution."

"Oil, gas, and mining firms are increasingly disclosing their contracts with governments," he said, providing "a

chance" to monitor the activities of both corporate and public officials.

Kim announced that the World Bank will create a single pool of technical experts in rule of law, public sector, financial and state management, and public procurement as a major tool to fight corruption.

In 1996, the World Bank for the first time intensified its anti-corruption focus, calling it a "cancer" for poor countries.

"Cancer can be cured," Kim said.

He said the World Bank was making strides in weeding it out. For example, he said, "when corruption threatened to derail a critical power project for southern African countries, the World Bank intervened, preventing more than \$6 million dollars from

being misused."

Other major instances include the World Bank's cancellation of a \$1.2 billion credit for the construction of a bridge in Bangladesh in June 2012 after finding evidence of a high-level corruption conspiracy among Bangladeshi government officials and executives of SNC Lavalin, a Canadian multinational, in connection with the project.

SNC Lavalin was banned from any World Bank contract for 10 years.

In another high-profile instance, in February 2012, two units of French group Alstom had to pay a combined \$9.5 million in restitution and were excluded from any Bank contract for three years for bribing officials in Zambia in relation to a Bank-financed hydropower project.

new offering, down from 65.2 percent.

The company said Zuckerberg will exercise his option to purchase 60 million Class B shares and then convert the shares to Class A for the sale.

Each Class A share has one voting right, while Class B shares have 10 voting rights.

Another early Facebook investor, entrepreneur Marc Andreessen, will sell some 1.6 million shares in the offering.

The filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission also notes that Zuckerberg plans to donate 18 million shares to an unspecified beneficiary. He and his wife Priscilla last year gave a similar amount to a Silicon Valley foundation.

One of the reasons for the new Facebook offering is to meet expected demand with Facebook being added to the Standard & Poor's 500 index. That requires portfolio managers who own the stock index to buy Facebook shares.

Being added to the S&P 500 comes at the end of a year in which Facebook climbed out from the wreckage of its much-hyped but quickly panned stock market debut early in 2012. Facebook has been on an upward cycle since earnings showed a jump in mobile advertising revenue.

Zuckerberg's net worth was

estimated by Forbes magazine at \$19 billion at the end of September, making him the 25th richest person in the United States and 66th wealthiest in the world.

Facebook stock fell by more than half after the 2012 IPO at \$38, but have doubled since August and hit record highs in recent weeks. In early trade Thursday, the stock was down 1.6 percent at \$54.65.

The world's leading online social network reported profit of \$425 million in the quarter that ended on September 30, compared with a loss a year earlier. Revenues rose sharply to \$2.016 billion.

Facebook earlier this week began serving up video ads that pop up and play when users check their news feeds. The leading online social network said it is testing the new advertising technique this week with a clip teasing the new film "Divergent."

Analysts at Bank of America/Merrill Lynch estimated that video ads could generate a 10 to 15 percent lift in revenues for Facebook.

The consultancy eMarketer said Facebook has become the second largest seller of digital advertising behind Google, and that Facebook will take in 7.4 percent of net US digital ad dollars, or \$3.17 billion, in 2013.



Current as of: 12/19/2013				
	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.68
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.96
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	199.93
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	245.86
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	27.72
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	33.19
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	29.58
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	172.47

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 . A D D . . . M E D L E Y S
 . P E E L . . . P O L . . .
 . E L L I S . . . G A S P S
 . . . B O B . . . C L U E
 . D E V E L O P . . . U R N
 . A V E R . . . R A M M E D
 . T E N T . . . G R I P E
 . A R T Y . . . E T A . . .

COMICS

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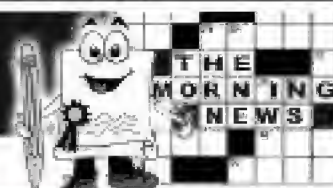
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CALVIN and HOBBS



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ACROSS

- 1 Building locations
6 Secret emissary
9 "___ Twist" (Dickens)
11 Colt's father
12 Italian cheese
13 Wagon pullers
14 Seth's mom
15 Seer's cards
17 Cincinnati players
19 Adam's son and name-sakes
20 Member of a coven
22 Scale
24 Subsidies
28 Columnist Hedda ___
30 Jackie O's second husband

31 Baseball's Winfield

32 Doesn't dine out (2 wds.)

34 Ceases to exist

35 Giving the pink slip

36 Transgress

37 Copenhagen natives

DOWN

1 More achy
2 "___ Paris" (2 wds.)

3 Used a stopwatch

4 One Gabor

5 Delivered e-mail

6 "The ___ Sense" (1999 film)

7 Printer's machine

8 Great longing

10 Little piggy's dinner (2 wds.)

11 Assuage

16 ___ room

18 Steals

21 Brat

22 Seat

23 Romeo, e.g.

25 Wash bowl

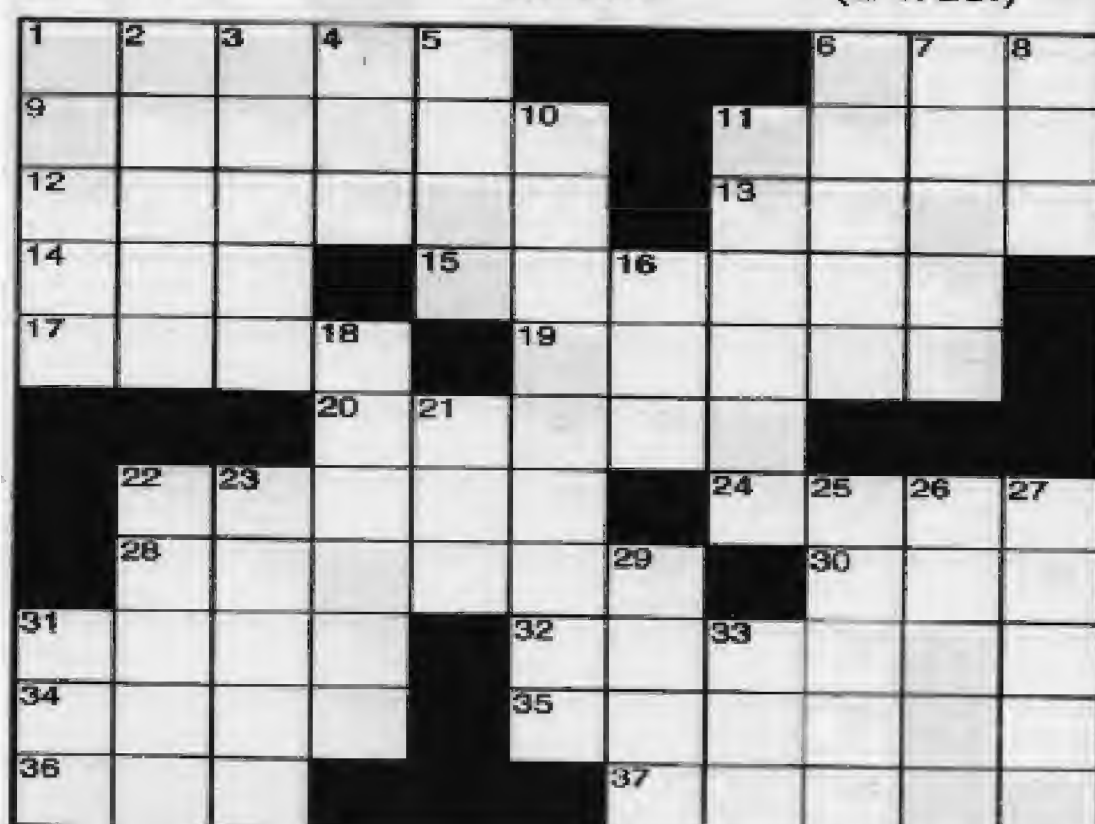
26 Salty water

27 Vocalizes

29 Bug spray brand

31 Eisenhower's initials

33 Singing syllable



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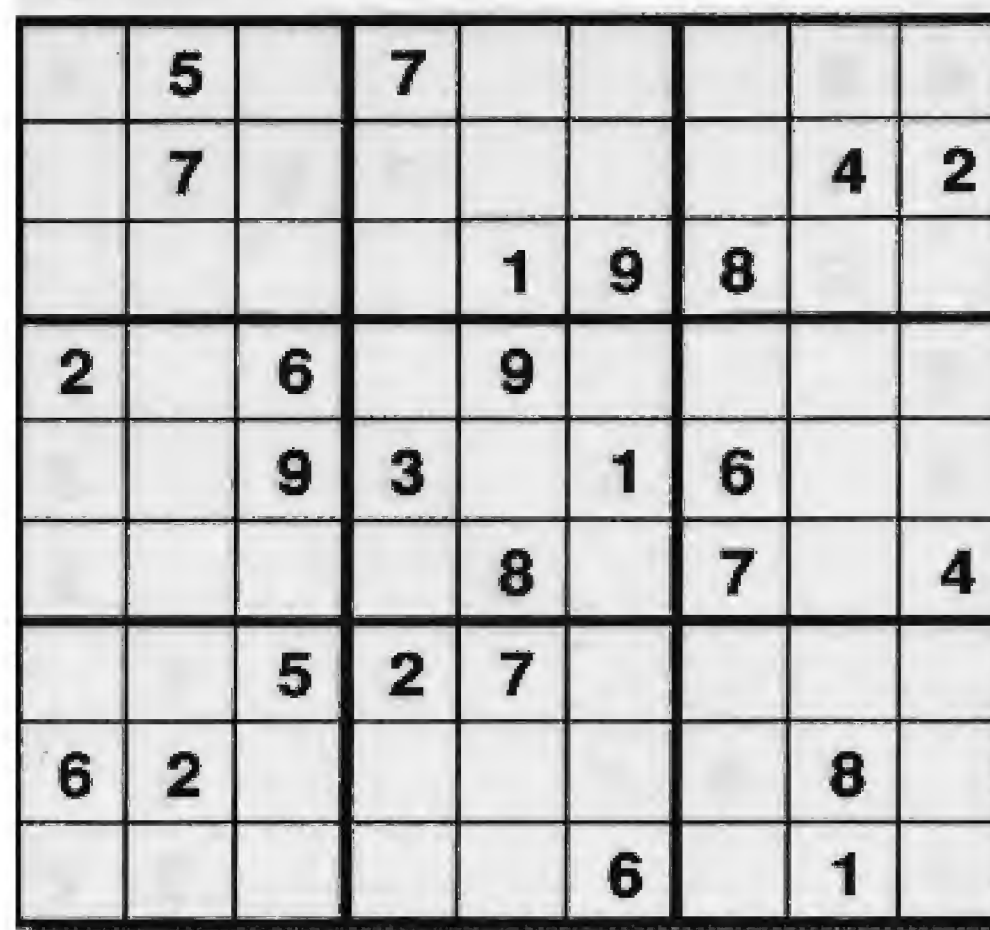
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

5	1	2	9	7	8	2	6	3
2	7	8	5	6	1	3	4	9
9	6	2	8	9	5	1	3	7
8	2	1	5	6	3	7	4	9
1	9	8	2	6	3	7	4	5
6	2	9	6	1	9	2	8	7
7	9	6	8	1	2	3	4	5
3	1	7	2	4	8	5	6	9
4	3	5	7	9	1	2	8	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



Delicious Breakfast

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on para-

dise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at

8am, patrons can now order 2 eggs any style (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) and toast for a price of only \$4.99 or All You Can Eat Pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on, after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie, so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice

beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are



ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to

watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish Sunday-Thursday; and until 3am on Friday & Saturdays.

Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches!

Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded get-



away; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when

complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the

investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

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World Cup 2014 profile: The Netherlands



The Netherlands positively cruised into the finals of Brazil 2014, coming through as Europe's the joint-top point scorers.

The Netherlands is in Group B- together with Spain, Chile and Australia.

Coach: Louis Van Gaal - Van Gaal, 62, began his second spell as coach of the Dutch national team, replacing Bert van Marwijk, after the last European Championship and will retire after the tournament in Brazil.

He had failed to take the Netherlands to the 2002 finals in Asia but made sure of redemption by steering the squad through a near flawless campaign.

A strict disciplinarian, Van Gaal made his name at Ajax Amsterdam where he won the Champions League in 1995 before winning two Spanish titles with Barcelona.

He also won the Bundesliga

with Bayern Munich in 2010 but was fired before the end of the next season.

The key players

The likes of Nigel de Jong, Arjen Robben, Robin van Persie, Wesley Sneijder and Rafael van der Vaart are still regulars after leading roles in helping the Dutch to reach the 2010 final.

However, coach Louis van Gaal has overhauled the team in the wake of a disappointing Euro 2012 tournament in Poland and Ukraine, where the highly fancied Dutch lost all three of their group games.

Van Gaal lost his first game back in charge but has gone 17 matches without defeat since a 4-2 friendly loss to Belgium.

They eased competently through their qualifying group as they won nine of their 10 matches, scoring 34 goals and conceding just five.

Top place was secured away in the restricted confines of the

tiny stadium in Andorra with two matches still to play.

The Dutch campaign included an 8-1 home thumping of Hungary and impressive away victories in Bucharest and Istanbul but recent friendlies have shown up some weaknesses although Van Gaal has not been scared to give teenage talent like Memphis Depay a run in the team.

Previous appearances: 9 (1934, 1938, 1974, 1978, 1990, 1994, 1998, 2006, 2010)

Best performances: Runners up 1974, 1978, 2010.



FIFA WORLD CUP
Brasil

BRIEFS:



COPPER MOUNTAIN, CO - (AFP) Shaun White competes during qualifying for the mens FIS Snowboard Slopestyle World Cup at U.S. Snowboarding and Freeskiing Grand Prix yesterday in Copper Mountain, Colorado.



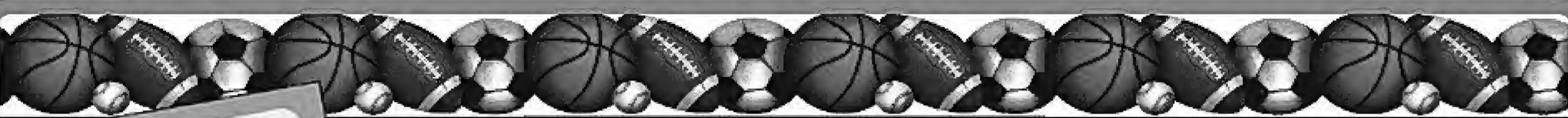
BARCELONA (AFP) -Barcelona's Brazilian guard Marcelo Huertas (R) vies with Budivelnik Kiev's Andriy Lebedintsev during the Euroleague basketball match FC Barcelona vs Budivelnik Kiev at Palau Blaugrana sports hall in Barcelona yesterday.




ISTANBUL (AFP) - Real Madrid's Sergio Rodriguez (L) dribbles as Anadolu Efes' Dogus Balbay tries to block him during the group B Euroleague basketball match between Anadolu Efes Istanbul and Real Madrid yesterday at the Abdi Ipekci Arena in Istanbul.

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NBA: Late rally lifts Heat over Pacers

MIAMI (AFP) - NBA champions Miami made it clear Wednesday that they won't concede Eastern Conference supremacy to the Indiana Pacers without a fight.

LeBron James and the Heat outscored the Pacers 12-2 in the final three minutes to rally for a 97-94 victory in a duel between the East's top two teams.

Ray Allen drained a go-ahead three-pointer with 59.5 seconds left to play as the Heat finally got some long-range shots to fall when it mattered.

The Heat, who came into the contest shooting 38.6 percent from three-point range, missed their first nine from beyond the arc before connecting on five of their last 12 attempts.

The Heat trailed by as many as 15 in the third, but Chris Bosh's three-pointer knotted the score at 92-92 and Allen's trey with just under a minute to play put Miami up 95-92. It was their first lead since the first quarter, and they wouldn't trail again.

Two free throws by Indiana's David West trimmed the deficit to 95-94 with 44.4 seconds to play, and Chris Anderson missed on Miami's next possession.

The Pacers had the ball, but George Hill's poor pass intended for Paul George was grabbed by James and after a Pacers foul, Allen added two free throws for Miami.

George was off-target with a

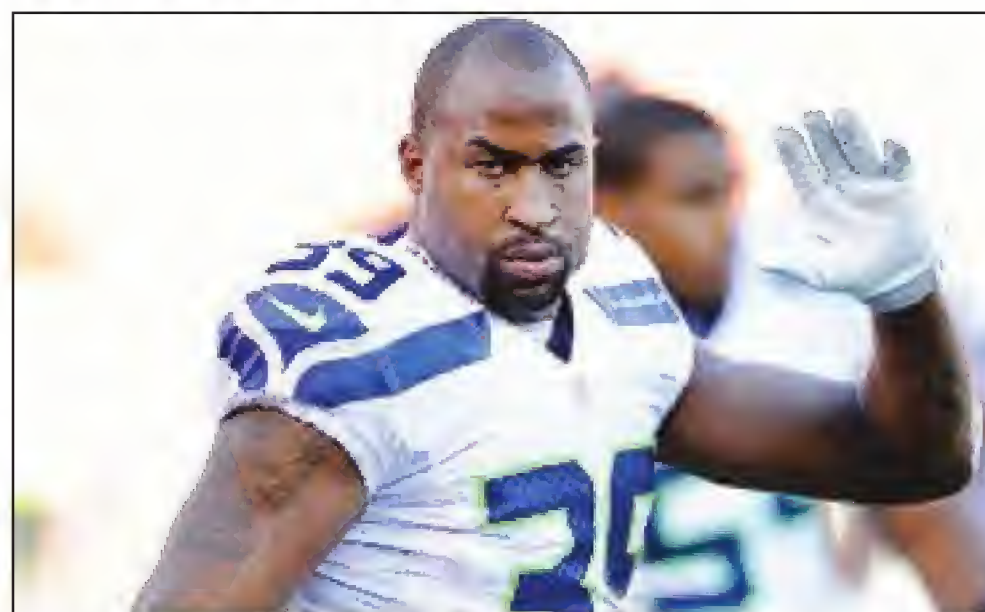
three-pointer that would have tied it up with four seconds remaining.

Dwyane Wade led the Heat with 32 points, James, playing on a sore left ankle, added 24 and Bosh chipped in 15.

Miami downed the Pacers in an epic seven-game Eastern Conference finals battle last season en route to a second straight NBA crown.

Last week, the Pacers, who lead the Eastern Conference with a record of 20-5, used a late surge to down the Heat in Indianapolis, and James acknowledged that despite the fact it's still relatively early in the season, the game had a playoff intensity.

NFL: Seahawks' Browner banned indefinitely over drug violation



NEW YORK (AFP) - The NFL suspended Brandon Browner indefinitely on Wednesday after the Seattle Seahawks cornerback lost his appeal of sanctions for violating the league's drug policy.

Browner had been facing a potential one-year ban as a second-time offender.

NFL.com reported that he turned down an offer by the NFL to reduce the penalty and instead opted to fight the verdict.

When the appeal was denied, the league announced the indefinite suspension, meaning he could now be banned for more than 12 months.

Browner had missed the last four regular-season games of 2012 after testing positive for a performance-enhancing

substance last year, returning for the Seahawks' two playoff games.

This particular suspension reportedly stems from multiple missed drug tests, with Browner reportedly arguing that he was not notified of the tests.

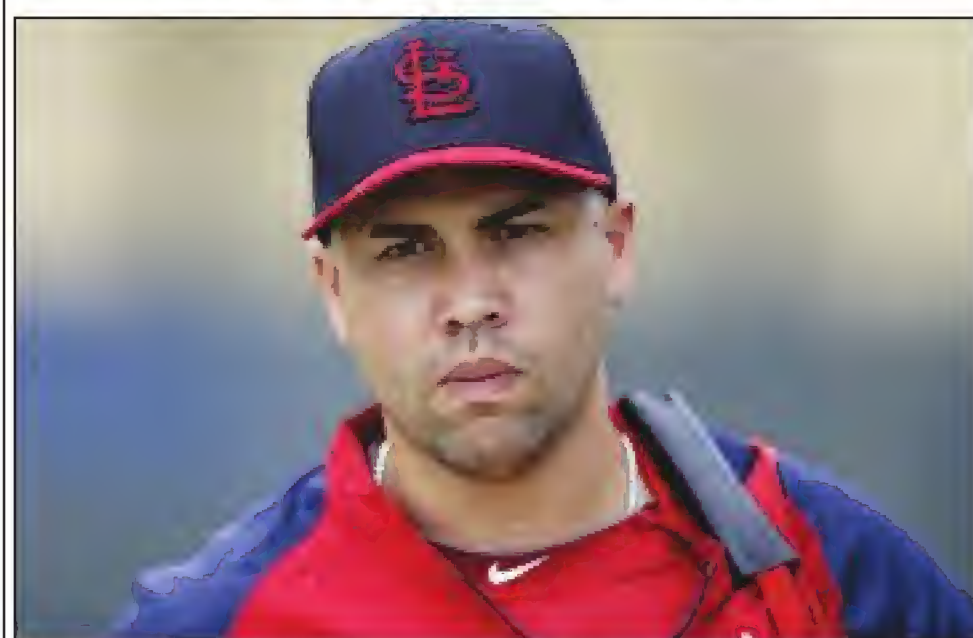
NFL.com reported that the league was able to document that Browner was notified of the tests in writing.

Browner signed with the Seahawks before the 2011 season and started all 16 games that year.

He earned a place in the Pro-Bowl with a season that included six interceptions -- two of them returned for touchdowns.

This season he has played just eight games as he battled a groin injury.

Beltran, Yankees finalize \$45M, 3-year contract



NEW YORK - The New York Yankees officially signed eight-time All-Star outfielder Carlos Beltran to a three-year contract Thursday. Beltran, who will turn 37 in April, batted .296 with 24 homers and 84 RBI in 145 games for the Cardinals last season. It was the final season of a two-year, \$26 million pact. The signing with the Yankees signals a return to New York for Beltran, who starred for the Mets from 2005-11 when he was under a \$119 million deal. He was traded to the Giants just before the deadline in 2011. Over 16 major league seasons, Beltran has batted .283 with 358 homers and 1,327 RBI. He spent his first 6 1/2 seasons playing for Kansas City and was dealt to the Astros during the 2004 campaign before signing his big free-agent deal with the Mets.

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Class 2a4 of Colegio EPI Economy best in dance results



ORANJESTAD - Every year the EPI economy class puts on their traditional dance for the subject of physical education, called in Dutch "bewegingsonderwijs" (movement education). The students in the second year at EPI economy are required to work on and present a dance with their class in order to complete the module they are working on.

The dance entails various rules that students must follow: the dance must be within 5 to 7 minutes, it must contain 1 minute of folklore dance, 1 minute of aerobics and a minimum of 5 different types of music. The entire class is required to present the dance and they are required to compose their own music on a CD. Six judges to judge their work are persons well versed in dance music, who will give the students a grade for their dance

product. The teachers of physical education, who organized the program, Andy Gomez and Glenn Lande, will give them a grade for the dance process.

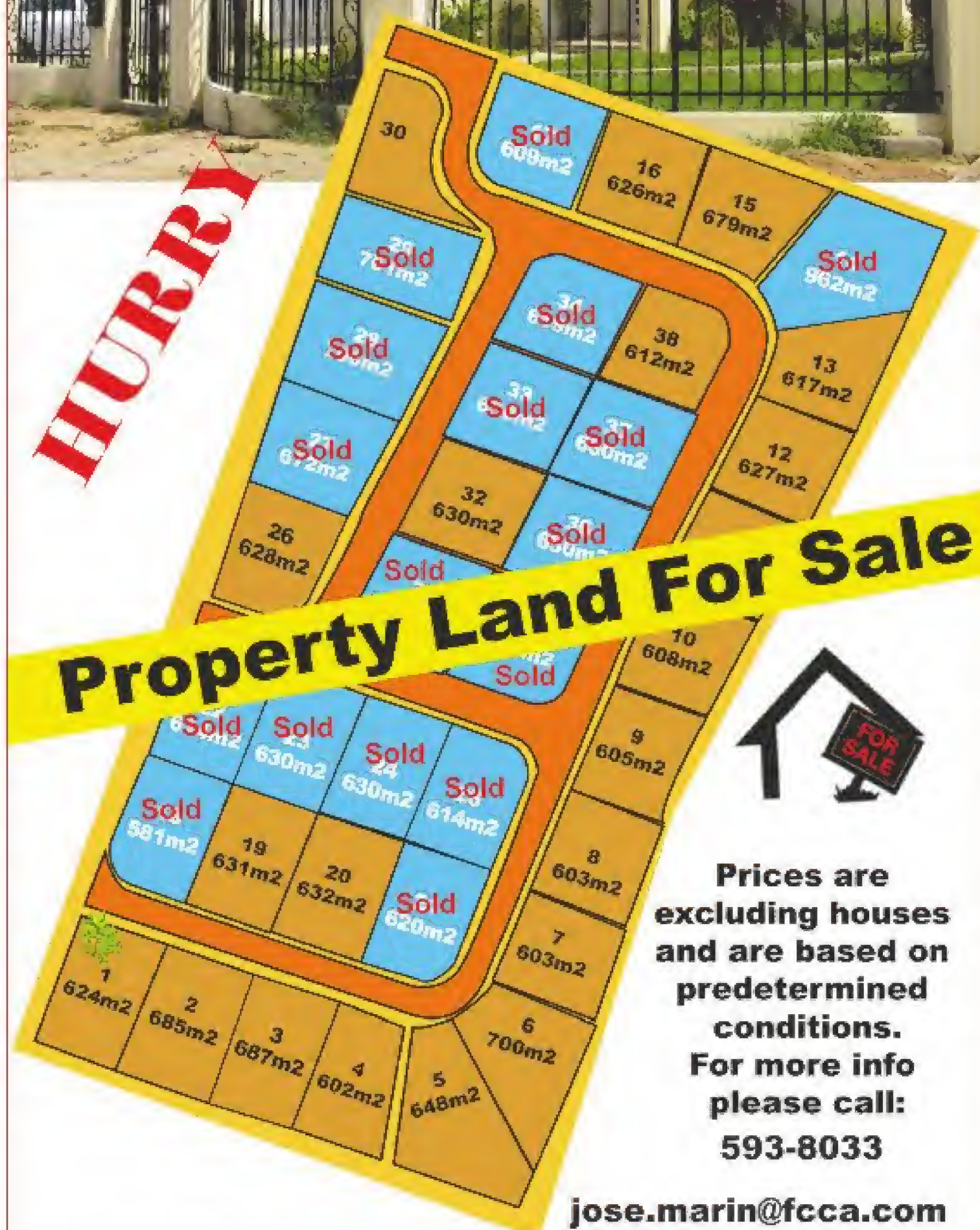
This year there were seven classes to participate in the dance. Class 2A4 resulted in obtaining the best results. On their "I Love Aruba" T-shirt they got the attention of the judges as well as the audience present. Every year this dance of the EPI results in being very popular among the very EPI students, not to mention many others who come to see the performance. They usually fill to capacity the Betico Croes Complex in Santa Cruz.

Congratulations to all dance students, but especially to class 2A4 who won this year's performance. Also, congratulations to EPI Economy with your successful dance program.

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Football: 33 Bulgarian fans arrested

SOFIA (AFP) - Thirty-three football fans of Sofia's bitter arch rivals Levski and CSKA were detained Thursday ahead of a Bulgarian Cup game between the two teams, the interior ministry said. Two of the supporters were arrested following a fight near the stadium, while the rest were detained for possession of drugs and for carrying knives and smoke bombs, which are banned in Bulgarian stadiums. Police also repeatedly prevented fans from clashing on their way to the game, the ministry added in a statement. Levski and CSKA, third and fourth respectively in the Bulgarian league, are the country's most popular teams and traditional arch-rivals, whose fans frequently organise fights in and outside stadiums. Thursday's game ended in a win for Levski after the two teams drew 0-0 in normal time, necessitating extra time and a penalty shoot-out. Levski won the shoot-out 7-6.